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RECORD OF AMERICAN ZOOLOGY.

BY J. S. KINGSLEY.

(Continued from Vol. XXIV., page 454.)

IT is the intention to catalogue here in systematic order all papers relating to the Zoology of North America, including the West Indies, beginning with the year 1889. An asterisk indicates that the paper has not been seen by the recorder. Owing to the method of preparation it is impossible to collect in one issue all the papers relating to any group, but it is hoped that succeeding numbers will correct this. Authors are requested to send copies of their papers to J. S. Kingsley, Lincoln, Nebraska.

VERTEBRATA, GENERAL.

HEITZMANN, C.—The minute structure of the Cornea. I. The so-called cells of the Cornea. *Microscope*, IX., p. 354.

CAHALL, W. C.—The teeth as evidence of evolution. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 224, 1890.

STEARNS, R. E. C.—Instances of the effect of musical sounds on animals. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 22, 123, 236.

MORRIS, CHARLES.—From Brute to Man. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 341, 1890.

McCLURE, C. F. W.—The primitive Segmentation of the Vertebrate Brain. *Zool. Anz.*, XII., p. 435, 1889.—See *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 187.

TUNICATA.

MORGAN, T. H.—Origin of the Test Cells of the Ascidians. *J. H. U., Circ.*, VIII., p. 63, 1889.—Results agree well with those of Van Beneden and Julin.

FEWKES, J. W.—New Invertebrata from California. *Bull. Essex Inst.*, XXI., p. 134, 1889 [1890].—Describes as new *Clavellinopsis* [n.g.] *rubra*.

CYCLOSTOMATA.

MEEK, SETH E.—Note on *Ammocætes branchialis*. *AM. NAT.*, XXI., p. 640, 1889.

TELEOSTS (including GANOIDS).

EIGENMANN, C. H.—On the Development of California Food Fishes. AM. NAT., XXIII., p. 107, 1889.

MATHER, FRED.—The Eggs of an Eel. *Am. Mo. Micros. Jour.*, X., p. 15, 1889.

PACKARD, A. S.—The cave fauna of North America. Mem. Nat. Acad., IV., 1889.—Mentions cave teleosts.

MORRISON, WILLARD R.—A review of the American species of Priacanthidæ. Proc. Phil. Acad., 1889, p. 159.—Species recognized are *Priacanthus catafula*, *P. cruentatus*, *P. bonariensis* (So. America) and *Pseudopriacanthus altus*.

KIRSCH, PH. H., AND FORDICE, MORTON, W.—A review of the American species of Sturgeons (Acipenseridæ), Proc. Phila. Acad., 1889, p. 245.—Recognizes *Scaphirhynchus platyrhynchus*, *Acipenser medirostris*, *A. sturio*, *A. rubicundus*, *A. brevirostrum*, *A. transmontanus*.

HENSHALL, J. A.—Some observations on Ohio Fishes. Jour. Cin. Socy. Nat. Hist., XII., p. 114.—General article.

KIRSH, PH. H.—A review of the European and American Uranoscopidæ or Star-Gazers. Proc. Phila. Acad., 1889, p. 258.—American species *Kathetostoma averyuncus*, *Astroscopus anoplos*, *Upsilonphorus Y-græcum*, *U. guttatus*.

MEEK, S. E. AND BOLLMAN, C. H.—Note on *Elegatis bipinnulatus*. Proc. Phila. Acad., 1889, p. 42.—Description of Long Island specimen.

GARMAN, S. W.—A large Carp and its History. Proc. Bost. Soc., XXIV., p. 167, 1889.—*Cyprinus carpio*, from Ayer, Mass., weighing 16½ lbs.

GILBERT, C. H.—Fourth series of notes on the Fishes of Kansas. Bull. Washburn College, II., p. 38.—Enumeration of species.

BEARD, J.—On the early development of *Lepidosteus osseus*. Proc. Roy. Soc., XVI, p. 108, 1889.—Segmentation, origin of germ-layers, nervous system, peripheral sense organs, notochord, nephridia, giant cells in nervous system.

McCORMICK, L. M.—List of Fishes of Lorain Co., Ohio. Jour. Cin. Soc. Nat. Hist., XII., p. 127, 1890.—Nominal list of 128 species.

MEEK, S. E.—The Native Fishes of Iowa. Bull. Lab. Nat. Hist. State Univ. Iowa, I., p. 161, 1889.—First part of a descriptive paper, including Catostomidæ, and enumerating 28 species.

JORDAN, D. S., AND FESLER, B.—Description of a new species of Orthopristis from the Galapagos Island. Proc. A. N. S., Phila., 1889, p. 36.—*O. lethopristsis*.

IVES, J. E.—Mimicry of the environment in *Pterophryne histrio*. Proc. A. N. S., Phila., 1889, p. 344, 1890.—Comments on resemblances to *Sargassum*.

GILBERT, C. H.—Notes on the occurrence of *Gillichthys Y-cauda* at San Diego, California. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XII., p. 363, 1889 [1890].—*G. guaymasiæ*, doubtfully distinct; *Gobius townsendi*, young of *Gillichthys mirabilis*.

JORDAN, D. S., AND EVERMANN, B. W.—Description of the yellow-finned trout of Twin Lakes, Colorado. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XII., p. 453, 1889 [1890].—*Salmo mykiss macdonaldi*, subsp. nov.

BATRACHIA.

MORGAN, T. H.—Notes on the fate of the *Amphibian blastopore*. J. H. U. Circ., VIII., p. 31, 1889.—Preliminary paper, see *infra*.

PETERS, J. E.—Another specimen of *Hyla andersonii*. AM. NAT., XXIII., p. 58, 1889.

HAY, O. P.—Notes on the habits of some Amblystomas. AM. NAT., XXIII., p. 602, 1889.

HAY, O. P.—Notes on the life history of *Chorophilus triseriatus*. AM. NAT., XXIII., p. 770, 1889.

COPE, E. D.—The Batrachia of North America. Bulletin U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 34, 1889. (See AM. NAT., XXIII, p. 793, 1889.)

RYDER, J. A.—Karyokinesis in larval Amblystoma. AM. NAT., XXIII., p. 827, 1889.

ABBOTT, C. C.—Frogs eating Snakes. AM. NAT., XXIV., p. 188, 1890.

ABBOTT, C. C.—Voice of *Hyla andersonii*. AM. NAT., XXIV., p. 189, 1890.

BORDEN, W. C.—Origin and development of the fat-cells of the Frog. *Microscope*, IX., p. 101, 1889.—Nothing new.

RYDER, J. A.—Heterocercy in Batrachia. *Proc. Phila. Acad.*, 1889, p. 155.—In *Amblystoma* larva.

MORGAN, T. H.—On the Amphibian blastopore. *Studies Biol. Lab. J. Hopkins Univ.*, IV., p. 355, 1890. Forms studied were *Bufo lustiginosus*, *Rana halecina*, *Amblystoma punctatum*.

HAY, O. P.—On the structure of the skull of the larva of *Amphiuma*. *Proc. A. A. A. S.*, XXXVIII., p. 286, 1889.—Abstract.

BOULENGER, G. A.—Description of a new Batrachian of the Genus *Eupemphix* from Trinidad. *Ann. and Mag. N. H.*, III., p. 307, 1889.—*E. trinitatis*.

ROBERTS, H. L.—Frogs Eating Snakes. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 74, 1889.

TOWNSEND, T.—Twelve species of Coleoptera taken from the stomachs of Toads in Michigan, with remarks on the food habits of Toads. *Proc. Ent. Soc.*, Washington, I., p. 167, 1889.

COPE, E. D.—Report on the Batrachia and Reptiles collected [by the U. S. Fish Commission steamer *Albatross*] in 1887-'88. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII, p. 141, 1889 [1890].—*Bufo agua* from St. Lucia, W. I.

REPTILES.

NORTHROP, J. I.—*Coluber obsoletus* [near Newburg, N. Y.]. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 82, 1890.

BAUR, G.—Osteologische Notizen über Reptilien. *Zool. Anzeiger*, XII., p. 40, 1889.

BAUR, G.—Revision meiner Mittheilungen in *Zoologischen Anzeiger*. *Zool. Anz.*, XII., 238.—Notes on osteology of various reptiles.

GARMAN, S. W.—On the evolution of the Rattlesnake. *Proc. Bost. Socy.*, XXIV., p. 170, 1889.—Moulting of snakes and rattle-like structures in other snakes.

BAUR, G.—Die systematische Stellung von *Dermochelys*. *Biol. Centralbl.*, IX., 149, 180, 1889.—*Dermochelys* [Sphagris] is not a primitive form, but has descended from the "*Thecaphora*" and probably from the "*Pinnata*."

———. —Nachträgliche Bemerkungen über die systematische Stellung von Dermochelys, *l. c.*, p. 618, 1889.

HERRICK, C. L.—Notes on the Brain of the Alligator. *Jour. Cin. Soc. N. H.*, XII., p. 129, 1890.—Notes on anatomy and histology; illustrated by 9 plates.

COPE, E. D.—Tortoises sold in the markets of Philadelphia. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 374, 1890.

SHUFELDT, R. W.—[No title] *Nature*, XLI., p. 181, 1889.—States existence of zygomatic arch in *Heloderma*.

BROWN, A. E.—Description of a new species of *Eutænia*. *Proc. A. N. S., Phila.*, 1889, p. 421, 1890.—*E. nigrolateris* (Arizona).

STEJNEGER, L.—Descriptions of two new species of snakes from California. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., p. 95, 1889 [1890]—*Lichanura orcutti*, *L. simplex*.

COPE, E. D.—Report on the Batrachians and Reptiles collected [by the U. S. Fish Commission steamer Albatross] in 1887-'88. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., p. 141, 1889 [1890].—Three species from St. Lucia, W. I.

BIRDS.

STRODE, W. S.—The food of the Owls. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 17, 1889.

RHOADES, S. N.—The mimetic origin and development of bird language. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 91, 1889.

HARGITT, C. W.—Interesting cases of color variations. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 449, 1889.

DANENHOUR, F. H.—Birds killed by electric lights at Girard College, Philadelphia. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 823, 1889.

STRODE, W. S.—History of the Owl, continued. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 833, 1889.

TIGHT, W. I.—*Hesperiphona vespertina* [at Granville, Ohio]. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 82, 1889.

BAKER, F. C.—Notes on the food of Birds. *Proc. Phila. Acad.* 1889, p. 266.

HENDRICKSON, W. F.—The Chestnut-colored and Lapland Longspurs on Long Island, N. Y. *Auk*, VI., 190, 1889.

DAVISON, S. L.—Breeding of *Habia ludovicianus* in Niagara Co., N. Y. *Auk*, VI., p. 191, 1889.

HASBROUCK, E. M.—Restoration of an Audubonian form of *Geothlypis trichas* to the American avifauna. *Auk*, VI., p. 167, 1889.

TORREY, B.—Bicknell's Thrush breeding in Vermont. *Auk*, VI., p. 617, 1889.

SENNETT, GEO. B.—Clapper Rails of the United States and West Indies compared with *Rallus longirostris* of South America. *Auk*, VI., 166, 1889.

RICHMOND, C. W.—Another saw-whet owl in the District of Columbia. *Auk*, VI., 189.—*Nyctala acadica*.

BOND, F.—*Myiadestes townsendi* apparently wintering in Wyoming. *Auk*, VI., 193, 1889.

TREAT, W. E.—A fishing screech owl. *Auk*, VI., 189, 1889.

*FEILDEN, H. W.—On the breeding of *Puffinus auduboni* in the island of Barbadoes.—*Ibis*, p. 60, 1889.

PRINCE, W. C.—The northern phalarope in the Franconia Mts., N. H. *Auk*, VI., p. 68, 1889.

ELLIOTT, H. W.—The cow-bird as a fly-destroyer. *Auk*, VI., p. 72, 1889.

EVANS, EVAN M.—*Calamospiza melanocorys* on Long Island, N. Y. *Auk*, VI., p. 192, 1889.

PALMER, WM.—Occurrence of Traill's fly-catcher near Washington. *Auk*, VI., p. 71, 1889.

SENNETT, G. B.—First description of the egg of *Glaucidium phalaenoides*. *Auk*, VI., p. 70, 1889.

SHUFELDT, R. W.—Notes upon the sudden appearance in numbers of the Evening Grosbeak at Fort Wingate, New Mexico. *Auk*, VI., p. 72, 1889.

STEJNEGER, LEONHARD.—The proper name for the genus *Melanpitta*. *Auk*, VI., p. 79, 1889.—*Melopitta*.

SENNETT, G. B.—*Troglodytes ædon*, house wren, breeding in a sandbank. *Auk*, VI., p. 76, 1889.

GREEN, M. M.—Baird's sandpiper in Central New York. *Auk*, VI., p. 68, 1889.

SHUFELDT, R. W.—Notes on Brewster's and the blue-footed gannets. *Auk*, VI., p. 68, 1889.

Check List of North American Birds, according to the Canons of Nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union. Abridged edition, revised, pp. 71. Washington, 1889.

Supplement to the Code of Nomenclature and Check List of North American Birds, adopted by the American Ornithologists' Union.; pp. 74, New York, 1889.

FAXON, WALTER.—On the summer birds of Berkshire County, Mass. *Auk*, VI., p. 39-99, 1889.

CORY, C. B.—A list of the Birds collected by Mr. C. J. Maynard in the islands of Little Cayman and Cayman Brac. *Auk*, VI., p. 30, 1889.

ALLEN, J. A.—Note on the first Plumage of *Colinus ridgwayi*. *Auk*, VI., 189, 1889.

BROWN, J. C.—Unusual nesting site of *Dendroica virens*. *Auk*, VI., 74, 1889.

—Early appearance of *Empidonax minimus* at Portland, Maine. *Auk*, VI., p. 71, 1889.

BROWN, N. C.—Notes on *Ægialitis meloda circumcincta*. *Auk*, VI., 70, 1889.

—Remarkable flight of Killdeer (*Ægialitis vocifera*) near Portland, Maine. *Auk*, VI., p. 69, 1889.

ALLEN, F. C.—Summer birds at Bridgewater and Moltonboro, N. H. *Auk*, VI., p. 75, 1889.

DOWNES, ANDREW.—Birds of Nova Scotia. Trans. Nova Scotia Inst., VII., p. 142, 1889.

PIERS, H.—Editor of "Birds of Nova Scotia" by Andrew Downs. *Supra*.

DUTCHER, W.—Bird notes from Long Island, N. Y. *Auk*, VI., p. 131, 1889.

DUTCHER, B. H.—Bird notes from Little Gull Island, Suffolk Co., N. Y. *Auk*, VI., p. 124, 1889.

EVERMANN, B. W.—Birds of Carroll Co., Indiana. *Auk*, VI., p. 21, 1889 (Cont'd from *Auk*, V., p. 351, 1888).

—The Wood Ibis in Indiana. *Auk*, VI., p. 186, 1889.

LAWRENCE, GEO. N.—Remarks upon abnormal coloring of plumage observed in several species of birds. *Auk*, VI., p. 46, 1889.

—An account of the former abundance of some species of birds on New York Island at the time of their migration to the South. *Auk*, VI., 201, 1889.

—A new name for the species of *Sporophila* from Texas, generally known as *S. moreleti*. *Auk*, VI., p. 53, 1889.—*S. m. sharpei*.

—An account of the breeding habits of *Puffinus audubonii* in the island of Grenada, West Indies, with a note on *Zenaida rubripes*. *Auk*, VI., p. 19, 1889.

LUCAS, F. A.—Costal variations in birds. *Auk*, VI., 195, 1889.

BISHOP, LOUIS B.—Notes on the birds of the Magdalen Islands. *Auk*, VI., 144, 1889.—66 species.

—*Helminthophaga pinus*, *H. chrysoptera*, *H. leucobronchialis* and *H. lawrencei* in Connecticut, in the spring of 1888. *Auk*, VI., 192, 1889.

BRITAIN, JOHN and COX, PHILIP, JR.—Notes on the summer birds of the Restigouche Valley, New Brunswick. *Auk*, VI., p. 116, 1889.

GOSS, N. S.—Additions to the catalogue of the Birds of Kansas, with notes in regard to their habits. *Auk*, VI., p. 122, 1889.

JEFFRIES, W. A. and J. A.—Notes on Western North Carolina Birds. *Auk*, VI., p. 119, 1889.

STONE, WITMER.—Graphic representation of Bird migration. *Auk*, VI., p. 139, 1889.

ROBINSON, WIRT.—Some rare Virginia birds. *Auk*, VI., p. 194, 1889.

SCOTT, W. E. D.—A summary of observations on the birds of the Gulf Coast of Florida. *Auk*, VI., pp. 13, 152. (Cont. from *Auk*, V., p. 379, 1888.)

—Records of rare birds at Key West, Florida, and vicinity, with a note on the capture of a dove new to North America. *Auk*, VI., p. 160.—*Geotrygon*.

SHUFELDT, R. W.—Contributions to the comparative osteology of the families of North American Passeres. *Jour. Morph.*, III., p.

82, 1889.—Classification upon osteology, results in placing the raven at the head of the oscine series.

—Notes on the anatomy of *Speotyto cunicularia hypogæa*.

l. c. p. 116, 1889.—Visceral and muscular structures.

—Contributions to the comparative osteology of Arctic and sub-Arctic water Birds. *Jour. Anat. and Phys.*, XXIV., pp. 89, 169, 1889–90.—Osteology of puffins, loons, grebes.

TORREY, BRADFORD.—The booming of the Bittern. *Auk*, VI., p. 1, 1889.

MASON, E. C.—The Turkey-Buzzard in Massachusetts. *Auk*, VI., p. 70, 1889.

BENDIRE, CH. E.—A peculiar nest of *Cinclus mexicanus*. *Auk*, VI., p. 75.

—Notes on the habits, nests and eggs of *Dendragapus obscurus fuliginosus*. *Auk*, VI., p. 32, 1889.

—*Sphyrapicus ruber* breeding in coniferous trees. l. c.—p. 71, 1889.

LUCAS, FRED.—The main divisions of the Swifts. *Auk*, VI., p. 8, 1889.

BENDIRE, CH. E.—Description of the supposed nest and eggs of *Zonotrichia querula*, Harris's sparrow. *Auk*, VI., 150, 1889.

—Notes on the general habits, nests and eggs of the genus *Passerella*. *Auk*, VI., p. 107, 1889.

HARDY, MANLEY. Additional notes on the Bittern. *Auk*, VI., p. 187, 1889.

BREWSTER, WM.—Descriptions of supposed new Birds from western North America and Mexico. *Auk*, VI., 85.

—Occurrence of the western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes occidentalis*) in numbers on the coast of Massachusetts. *Auk*, VI., p. 69, 1889.

—Second occurrence of the Prairie horned lark in Eastern Massachusetts. *Auk*, VI., p. 71, 1889.

—The present status of Forster's tern as a bird of New England. *Auk*, VI., p. 66, 1889.

PECK, J. I.—Abstract of observations on the variation of the caudal nerves in the Pigeon. *J. H. U. Circ.*, VIII., p. 63, 1889.

—Preliminary account of next.

PECK, J. I.—Variation of the spinal nerves in the caudal region of the domestic Pigeon. *Jour. Morphol.*, III., p. 128, 1889.—Finds that the nerves vary in correlation with the parts.

RIDGWAY, R.—A review of the genus *Xiphocolaptes* of Lesson. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., p. 1, 1889 [1890].—A study of the collections of Washington, New York, Boston and Cambridge. The forms within the limits of this record are *X. sclateri*, nov. (Mexico), *emigrans* (Guatemala), *costaricensis*.

RIDGWAY, R.—A review of the genus *Sclerurus* of Swainson. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., p. 21, 1889 [1890].—Forms within the limit of this record are *S. albogularis* (Tobago), *canigularis* (Costa Rica), *mexicanus* (Mexico, South), *guatemalensis* (Guatemala to Panama).

RIDGWAY, R.—Birds collected [by the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer *Albatross*] on the Island of St. Lucia, West Indies [etc.] in 1887-'88. *Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.*, XII., p. 129, 1889 [1890].—Fifteen species enumerated from St. Lucia.

MAMMALS.

MERRIAM, C. HART.—A correction: *Arvicola* (*Chilotus*) *pallidus*. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 60, 1887.

RYDER, J. A.—The quadrate placenta of *Sciurus hudsonius*. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 291, 1889.

AULD, R. C.—Some cases of solid-hoofed hogs and two-toed horses. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 447, 1889.

HARGITT, C. W.—Interesting cases of color variation. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 449.

DAVIS, WM. T.—The song of the singing mouse. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 481, 1889.

GREENMAN, M. J.—Placentation of the Cat. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 645, 1889.

AULD, R. C.—The segregations of polled races [of cattle] in America. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., p. 677, 1889.

SPITZKA, E. C.—Remarks on the brain of the seals. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 115, 1890.

COLLETT, JOHN.—Bats in Wyandotte Cave. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 189, 1890.

TUCKERMAN, FRED.—On the gustatory organs of *Erethizon dorsatus*. *Am. Mo. Micros. Jour.*, X., p. 181.

TAYLOR, W. E.—Color variations of Nebraska flying squirrels. *Proc. A. A. A. S.*, XXXVIII., p. 247, 1889.

TUCKERMAN, FRED.—On the gustatory organs of *Sciurus carolinensis*. *Microscope*, IX., p. 193, plate.

BAKER, F. C.—Remarks upon the round-tailed muskrat, *Neofiber alleni*. True., *Proc. Phila. Acad.*, 1889, p. 271.—Notes on habits and measurements.

SHUFELDT, R. W.—Observations on the development of the skull in *Neotoma fuscipes*. *Proc. Phila. Acad.*, 1889, p. 14, Pls. 1 and 2.

TUCKERMAN, FRED.—On the gustatory organs of *Arctomys monax*. *Anat. Anz.*, IV., 334, 1889.

*LANGKAVEL, B.—*Nordamerikanische Wölfe* [*Canis latrans* and *C. occidentalis*]. *Zool. Garten*, XXIX., p. 364, 1889.

TUCKERMAN, FRED.—Gustatory organs of *Vulpes vulgaris*. *Jour. Anat. and Physiol.*, XXIII., p. 201, 1889.

STOWELL, T. B.—The muscles of the soft palate in the domestic cat. *Proc. A. A. A. S.*, XXXVIII., p. 287, 1889.

PAYNE, F. F.—The effect of whistling on seals. *AM. NAT.*, XXIV., p. 382, 1890.

DUGÈS, A.—La voix des chiens au Mexique. *Bull. Soc. Zool. France*, XIV., p. 69.

*ZIPPERLEIN, A.—Ein Lamantin, *Manatus americanus*. *Zool. Garten*, XXX., p. 25.

COPE, E. D.—The mechanical origin of the hard parts of the Mammalia. *AM. NAT.*, XXIII., 71, 1889.

SCLATER, P. L.—African monkeys in the West Indies. *Nature*, XLI., p. 368, 1890. *Cercopithecus callitrichus* in St. Kitts.

COPE, E. D.—The mechanical causes of the development of the hard parts of the Mammalia. *Jour. Morphol.*, III., p. 137, 1889.—Extended paper with numerous illustrations.

TUCKERMAN, F.—Further observations on the development of the taste organs in man. *Jour. Anat. and Physiol.*, XXIV., p. 130, 1889.—Descriptions in embryos of 10th and 14th weeks.

—Gustatory organs of *Procyon lotor*, l.c., p. 156, 1 pl., 1890.

THOMPSON, E. E.—Critical note on Mr. J. B. Tyrrell's paper, entitled "Catalogue of the Mammalia of Canada exclusive of the Cetacea." Proc. Canada Inst., VII., p. 178, 1889.—Criticism of method of construction.

ALLEN, H.—On the taxonomic values of the wing membranes and of the terminal phalanges of the digits in the Cheiroptera. Proc. A. N. S., Phila., 1889, p. 313, 1890.—Shows that course of nerves in wing membrane can be used in classification.

HORNADAY, W. T.—The extermination of the American bison. Rep. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1886-'87, p. 369-548, 22 pls., 1889.—An exhaustive monograph upon the approaching extinction of *Bison americanus*.

EDITORIAL.

EDITORS, E. D. COPE AND J. S. KINGSLEY.

SENATOR EDMUNDS has introduced into the U. S. Senate a bill appropriating \$500,000 for the endowment of a National University to be located in the city of Washington. It was referred to a committee. This is the outcome of a project which has been long entertained by some of the scientific officials attached to the departments of the government. A good deal may be said both for and contra this proposition. There is reason to doubt, in the first place, whether it is consistent with the character of our government to establish any central institution of this kind. Popular education has been one of the functions especially relegated to the state governments, and although the central government might well retain the power of compelling the former to attend to this important duty, so as not to imperil the welfare of the entire country, it can scarcely assume to create any system or institution of its own. But of course it is competent to establish and sustain such a university in and for the District of Columbia.

At one time the plan was to create the various scientific experts in the employ of the central government professors in the university. We hope that this feature is not embraced in the present bill. The gentlemen in question do not hold office at